IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE 2 0 DEC 2004

In re application of

Gerard VALAT et al.

Conf.

Application No. NEW NATIONAL PHASE

Group

Filed December 20, 2004

Examiner

BOOT HAVING A FLOATING ARTICULATION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (SUBMISSION CONCURRENT WITH THE FILING OF A NEW PATENT APPLICATION)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 20, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

	Copies	of	the U	.s.	patents	or pu	$ t blications \sim$	are	not	submitted
_	since	the	USPTO	has	waived	theīr	submission	for	app	lications
	filed	afte	r June	30,	2003.					

- Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- This application is a National Phase of a PCT application. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should have been forwarded from the International Search Authority pursuant to the trilateral agreement between the USPTO, EPO and JPO, or they are U.S. patents or U.S. published applications. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

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a.	 DOCUMENTS	TIA	TUD	PNGTTDU	THIGONGE

The attached non U.S. patents, non U.S. patent application publications, foreign publications, or other information in the English language do not require a statement of relevancy.

DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE b.

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

 \boxtimes FOREIGN SEARCH REPORT OR ACTION c.

> An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3).

d. OTHER

> The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

FEES

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a new patent application; therefore, no fee is required.

If The Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures:	\boxtimes	Form PTO-1449(s)						
		Documents						
		Foreign Search Report						
		Other:						

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INFO	RMATION DISCLOSU	RE CITATION		Attorney Docket No.: 0584-1022		Application No. 1 C 7 5			
	IN AN APPLICAT		Applicant: Gerard VALAT et al.						
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		U.S. PATE	NT I	DOCUMENTS					
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Initial	N/O 04 05704	F/4/0004		INTERNATIONAL				Yes	No
	WO 01 35781 WO 01 89335	5/1/2001 11/1/2001		INTERNATIONAL	-				-
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER:

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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

^{*} English language abstract provided for the Examiner's convenience